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**(S//NF) SUBJ: SOVIET USE OF FRENCH-MANUFACTURED
EMULSION IN DECONTAMINATION OF AREAS AROUND
CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR REACTOR**

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COUNTRY: USSR/France SUBJ: SOVIET USE OF FRENCH-MANUFACTURED EMULSION
IN DECONTAMINATION OF AREAS AROUND CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR REACTOR

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DIST: 24 OCTOBER 1986

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DECONTAMINATION OF AREAS AROUND CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR
REACTOR

DOI: [REDACTED]

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SHORTLY AFTER THE APRIL
1986 EXPLOSION AT THE CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR REACTOR, THE SOVIET
GOVERNMENT CONTACTED THE FIRM REQUESTING THAT THEY PROVIDE A WATER-
BASED EMULSION WHICH, WHEN APPLIED TO ANY SOLID SURFACE WITH
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS, WILL SOLIDIFY AND ENTRAP THE CONTAMINATED
MATERIAL. AFTER DRYING TO A RUBBERY FILM, THIS PRODUCT, ALONG WITH
THE CONTAMINANTS, CAN THEN BE ROLLED UP AND DISPOSED OF. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THIS PRODUCT IS KNOWN AS "PELABLEAU 2000" AND IS
COMPOSED OF 47 PERCENT WATER AND A 53 PERCENT TITANIUM OXIDE ACRYLIC.
HE SAID THIS PRODUCT HAS BEEN TESTED AND ACCEPTED BY THE FRENCH
ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION AND EMPLOYED AT ATOMIC WEAPONS TESTING SITES
IN FRENCH POLYNESIA. MEYER ADDED THAT 95 PERCENT OF HIS SALES OF
THIS PRODUCT ARE TO THE FRENCH DEFENSE MINISTRY. [REDACTED] COMMENT: MEYER DID NOT COMMENT ON HOW THE SOVIETS KNEW ABOUT THIS PRODUCT.)

2. [REDACTED] THE QUANTITIES OF THIS
PRODUCT WHICH HAD BEEN SOLD TO THE SOVIET UNION OR THE SALES PRICE,
[REDACTED] THE FACTORY COST IN FRANCE IS THE EQUIVALENT OF
APPROXIMATELY US\$15.00 PER GALLON. [REDACTED] THE SOVIETS HAVE
BEEN APPLYING THE PRODUCT AT AN AVERAGE RATE OF 1,000 GRAMS PER
SQUARE METER WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF REMOVING CONTAMINANTS FROM A DEPTH
OF AT LEAST THREE CENTIMETERS. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THIS APPLICATION
EQUATES TO ROUGHLY ONE GALLON EVERY 42 SQUARE FEET.)

[REDACTED] IN ADDITION TO THE REACTOR SITE, THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN SPRAYING
THIS EMULSION OVER ALL NEARBY ROADS, RAILROAD TRACKS, AND AIRFIELDS
TO MINIMIZE THE SPREAD OF CONTAMINATED DUST BY VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT.
AT THESE VOLUMES, THE PRODUCT MUST BE SPRAYED BY FIRE HOSES.

3. [REDACTED] ONE DIFFICULTY ENCOUNTERED WITH THIS
EMULSION IS THAT AFTER IT HAS DRIED, BEEN COLLECTED, AND BURNED, THE
RESIDUE VOLUME IS GREATER THAN ANTICIPATED. ALSO, GREATER AMOUNTS OF
ENERGY ARE REQUIRED TO BURN THE MATERIAL THAN ORIGINALLY PREDICTED.
[REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] NO ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON THE
DISPOSITION OF THIS WASTE. [REDACTED] IT
WOULD APPEAR THAT THE SOVIETS ARE STILL APPLYING "PELABLEAU 2000"
THE CHERNOBYL AREA.)

[REDACTED]

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